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Agenda item 99

Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

"(a) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

"(b) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

"(c) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

"(d) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

"(e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

"(f) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa"

was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 64/62 of 2 December 2009 and 65/78, 65/79, 65/80, 65/83 and 65/84 of 8 December 2010.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

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3. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 October 2011, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 106. The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.3-9). The Committee also held 11 meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 10th to 20th meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Action on all draft resolutions and decisions was taken at the 21st to 24th meetings, from 26 to 28 and on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.21-24).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (A/66/113);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/66/140);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (A/66/159);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (A/66/163);

(e) Letter dated 4 April 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Sao Tome and Principe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/72-S/2011/225).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.9

5. At the 20th meeting, on 25 October, the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament" (A/C.1/66/L.9).

6. At the 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement concerning the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.9, provided by the Secretary-General.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.9 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.16

8. At the 19th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Peru, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" (A/C.1/66/L.16).

9. At its 24th meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.16 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.23

10. At the 19th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of the Congo, on behalf of Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa" (A/C.1/66/L.23). Subsequently, Kenya and the Niger joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

11. At the 23rd meeting, on 28 October, the representative of the Congo, on behalf of sponsors, orally revised the draft resolution by inserting a new preambular paragraph after the eleventh preambular paragraph, reading:

> "*Taking note with interest* of the increasing focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially in women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention".

12. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.23, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.34

14. At the 19th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Nepal, on behalf of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Thailand and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific" (A/C.1/66/L.34). Subsequently, the Congo, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. At its 24th meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.34 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.46

16. At its 21st meeting, on 26 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (A/C.1/66/L.46), submitted by Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Chile, the Congo, Cuba, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Viet Nam and Zambia. Subsequently, El Salvador, Jordan, Kuwait, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.46 by a recorded vote of 113 to 48, with 10 abstentions (see para. 22, draft resolution V). The voting was as follows:[1]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

[1] The delegation of Kyrgyzstan subsequently informed the Secretariat that, had it been present, it would have abstained.

Abstaining:

Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Japan, Marshall Islands, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan.

F. Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.52

18. At the 18th meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa" (A/C.1/66/L.52).

19. At the 24th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution by replacing the words "of an African common position" with the words "the ongoing process of seeking an African common position".

20. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

21. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.52, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution VI).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

22. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007, 63/76 of 2 December 2008, 64/58 of 2 December 2009 and 65/78 of 8 December 2010 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[1] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[2] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[3]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[4]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities and posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and bearing in mind in this regard that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Recalling that, in paragraph 127 of the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[5] and in paragraph 162 of the Final Document of the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Movement of Non Aligned Countries, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,[6] the Movement of Non Aligned Countries emphasized the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in

[1] A/66/159.
[2] A/66/113.
[3] A/66/140.
[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.
[5] A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.
[6] A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex I.

a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,

1. *Reiterates* the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to advance disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions in order to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

Draft resolution II
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, 55/34 E of 20 November 2000, 56/25 E of 29 November 2001, 57/89 of 22 November 2002, 58/60 of 8 December 2003, 59/99 of 3 December 2004, 60/84 of 8 December 2005, 61/92 of 6 December 2006, 62/49 of 5 December 2007, 63/74 of 2 December 2008, 64/60 of 2 December 2009 and 65/79 of 8 December 2010,

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided by the Regional Centre to many countries in the region, including through capacity-building and technical assistance programmes as well as outreach activities, for the development of plans to reduce and prevent armed violence from an arms control perspective, for promoting the implementation of relevant agreements and treaties and for capacity-building initiatives aimed at bolstering the efforts of the law enforcement community to combat illicit firearms trafficking,

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of disarmament and non-proliferation instruments,

Emphasizing the need for the Regional Centre to develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate,

Welcoming the ongoing support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[2]

Welcoming also the initiative of the Regional Centre to conduct its first course specifically for women, in line with efforts to implement gender mainstreaming in

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[1] A/66/140.

[2] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

promoting disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, as called for in General Assembly resolution 65/69 of 8 December 2010,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development, referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004,[3] which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the importance of maintaining the support provided by the Regional Centre for strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[4] and its efforts in promoting peace and disarmament education,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Bearing in mind also the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional and subregional levels to strengthen peace, disarmament, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* for the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to continue to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region for the promotion of, inter alia, confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, the reduction and prevention of armed violence, disarmament and development at the regional and subregional levels;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support for and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to make and to increase voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities

[3] See A/59/119.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

and making greater and better use of the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community, with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

6. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional and subregional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as in the relationship between disarmament and development;

7. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

Draft resolution III
Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 65/84 of 8 December 2010,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Reaffirming that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

Taking note of the Sao Tome Declaration on a Central African Common Position on the Arms Trade Treaty, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 16 March 2011 at their thirty-second ministerial meeting, held in Sao Tome from 12 to 16 March 2011,[1]

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[2] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[3] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[4]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its

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[1] See A/66/72-S/2011/225, annex.
[2] A/50/474, annex I.
[3] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.
[4] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[5]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and welcoming the close cooperation established between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States for that purpose,

Taking note with interest of the increasing focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially in women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention,

Expressing concern about the increasing impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army and increasing incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, on peace, security and development in Central Africa,

Considering the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons and mercenaries from the conflict in Libya into the neighbouring countries in the Central African region,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms limitation programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

3. *Renews its encouragement* to the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa and other interested States to provide financial support for the implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention), adopted on 30 April 2010, at the thirtieth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, held in Kinshasa from 26 to 30 April 2010;[6]

4. *Welcomes* the adoption by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the Sao Tome Declaration on a Central African Common Position on the Arms Trade Treaty,[1] encourages the Committee to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the steps identified in the Declaration, towards the continued active participation of its member States in the process for the arms trade treaty, and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and international partners to support those measures;

5. *Also welcomes* the active participation of experts of States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in the open-ended meeting of governmental experts on the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 13 May 2011;

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[5] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[6] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

6. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings;

7. *Also encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to continue their efforts to render the early warning mechanism for Central Africa fully operational as an instrument for analysing and monitoring the political situation in the subregion within the framework of the prevention of crises and armed conflicts, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the assistance necessary for its smooth functioning;

8. *Welcomes* the signing of the Kinshasa Convention by all eleven States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, and appeals to them to ratify the Convention in a timely manner in order to facilitate its early entry into force and implementation;

9. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention, as adopted on 19 November 2010 at their thirty-first ministerial meeting, held in Brazzaville from 15 to 19 November 2010;[7]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

13. *Reminds* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the commitments they undertook at the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (Libreville Declaration) on 8 May 2009,[8] and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the Trust Fund;

14. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

15. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security;

16. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the effective inauguration of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in

[7] See A/65/717-S/2011/53, annex.

[8] See A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex.

Libreville, welcomes the efforts made by the Office since its opening, and strongly encourages the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including the fallout from the situation in Libya, and welcomes the role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

18. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

19. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

Draft resolution IV
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/52 of 5 December 2007,

Recalling the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[1] and expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including conferences held on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, on 2 and 3 December 2010 and in Matsumoto, Japan, from 27 to 29 July 2011, a regional workshop on strengthening the media's capacity in promoting disarmament held in Beijing on 20 and 21 January 2011 and a regional seminar on armed violence prevention held in Kathmandu from 16 to 18 March 2011,

Appreciating the timely execution by Nepal of its financial commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* for the activities carried out in the past year by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and invites all States of the region to continue to support the activities of the Centre, including by continuing to take part in them, where possible, and by proposing items for inclusion in the programme of activities of the Centre, in order to contribute to the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has enabled the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations

[1] A/66/113.

and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

Draft resolution V
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[1]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[2] states that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2011 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 65/80 of 8 December 2010,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

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[1] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

Draft resolution VI
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000, 56/25 D of 29 November 2001, 57/91 of 22 November 2002, 58/61 of 8 December 2003, 59/101 of 3 December 2004, 60/86 of 8 December 2005, 61/93 of 6 December 2006, 62/216 of 22 December 2007, 63/80 of 2 December 2008 and 64/62 of 2 December 2009,

Reaffirming the role of the Regional Centre in promoting disarmament, peace and security at the regional level,

Welcoming the continuing and deepening cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular its institutions in the fields of disarmament, peace and security, as well as between the Centre and relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa, and considering the communiqué adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its two-hundredth meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 21 August 2009,

Recalling the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,[1] in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations,

Recalling also the call by the Secretary-General for continued financial and in kind support from Member States,[2] which would enable the Regional Centre to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Welcomes* the continental dimension of the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in response to the evolving needs of African Member States in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;

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[1] A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.263 (VIII).
[2] See A/66/159, para. 58.
[3] A/66/159.

3. *Also welcomes* the undertaking by the Regional Centre to provide capacity-building, technical assistance programmes and advisory services to the African Union Commission and subregional organizations on the control of small arms and light weapons, including on stockpile management and destruction, the proposed arms trade treaty and issues related to weapons of mass destruction, as detailed in the report of the Secretary-General;

4. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Regional Centre to continental disarmament, peace and security, in particular its assistance to the African Union Commission in the elaboration of the African Union Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and the ongoing process of seeking an African common position on the proposed arms trade treaty, and to the African Commission on Nuclear Energy in its implementation of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[4]

5. *Notes with appreciation* the tangible achievements and impact of the Regional Centre at the regional level, including its assistance to Central African States in their elaboration of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[5] to Central and West African States in the elaboration of their respective common positions on the proposed arms trade treaty, to West Africa on security sector reform initiatives, and to East Africa on programmes to control brokering of small arms and light weapons;

6. *Also notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Regional Centre to the "One United Nations" approach and to United Nations inter-agency mechanisms, including the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, the common country assessments and the poverty reduction strategy papers, in a number of African countries;

7. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to enable the Regional Centre to carry out its programmes and activities and meet the needs of the African States;

8. *Urges*, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;[1]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for greater achievements and results;

11. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

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[4] See A/50/426, annex.

[5] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

United Nations A/66/414

General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 November 2011

Original: English

Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 100

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

"(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

"(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission"

was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 38/183 O of 20 December 1983, 39/148 H of 17 December 1984, and 65/85 and 65/86 of 8 December 2010.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 October 2011, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 106. The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.3-9). The Committee also held 11 meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and

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draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 10th to 20th meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Action on all draft resolutions and decisions was taken at the 21st to 24th meetings, from 26 to 28 and on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.21-24).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament (A/66/27);

(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission for 2011 (A/66/42);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/66/125);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/66/123).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.1/66/L.13 and Rev.1

5. On 17 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/66/L.13) submitted by Cuba.

6. At the 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of China, Cuba and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, introduced a revised draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/66/L.13/Rev.1).

7. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement concerning the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.13/Rev.1, provided by the Secretary-General.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.13/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.20

9. At the 18th meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Iraq, on behalf of members of the extended Bureau of the Disarmament Commission, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/66/L.20).

10. At its 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.20 without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution II).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

11. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[1]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the addresses of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, as expressions of support for the endeavours of the Conference,

Recognizing also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and considering that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

Noting the follow-up discussions to the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral negotiations, held on 24 September 2010 at the initiative of the Secretary-General, and acknowledging the continued support for the Conference expressed by high-level officials in 2011,

Noting with renewed concern that the Conference on Disarmament has been unable to commence its substantive work, including negotiations, for over a decade, as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/85 of 8 December 2010, or to agree on a programme of work,

Welcoming the renewed overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament without further delay, on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Appreciating the continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as the six successive Presidents of the Conference at its 2011 session,

Noting with appreciation the significant contributions made during the 2011 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, as well as the discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/66/27).

Welcoming the enhanced engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament at its 2011 session according to decisions taken by the Conference,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2012 session,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and explore possibilities with a view to adopting a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2012 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009;[2]

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament during its 2011 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to request the current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, in its 2012 session;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

8. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

[2] CD/1864.

Draft resolution II
Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005, 61/98 of 6 December 2006, 62/54 of 5 December 2007, 63/83 of 2 December 2008, 64/65 of 2 December 2009 and 65/86 of 8 December 2010,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[1]

2. *Reaffirms* the validity of its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Disarmament Commission;

3. *Recalls* its resolution 61/98, in which it adopted additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the Disarmament Commission's methods of work;

4. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

5. *Also reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[3]

7. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission intensify consultations with a view to reaching agreement on the items on its agenda, in accordance with decision 52/492, before the start of its substantive session of 2012;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/66/42).

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

[3] A/CN.10/137.

8. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2012, namely from 2 to 20 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[4] together with all the official records of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/66/27).

United Nations A/66/415

General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 101

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 65/88 of 8 December 2010.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 October 2011, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 106. The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.3-9). The Committee also held 11 meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 10th to 20th meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Action on all draft resolutions and decisions was taken at the 21st to 24th meetings, from 26 to 28 and on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.21-24).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (A/66/153 (Part II)).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.2

5. At the 19th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, the Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" (A/C.1/66/L.2).

6. At the 21st meeting, on 26 October, the Secretary of the Committee brought to the attention of the members a technical correction in the draft resolution by which the word "*Recalls*" in operative paragraph 1 was replaced by the word "*Welcomes*".

7. Also at the 21st meeting, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.2, as orally revised, as follows:

(a) The fifth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 155 to 2, with 4 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

India, Israel.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Pakistan.

(b) The sixth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 160 to 2, with 2 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

India, Israel.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Pakistan.

(c) The seventh preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 163 to 1, with 2 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland,

Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel.

Abstaining:

India, Pakistan.

(d) Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.2 as a whole, as orally revised, was adopted by a recorded vote of 157 to 5, with 6 abstentions (see para. 8). The voting was as follows:[1]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri

[1] Subsequently, the delegation of Kyrgyzstan informed the Committee that, had it been present, it would have voted in favour of the draft resolution as a whole.

Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Panama.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(55)/RES/14, adopted on 23 September 2011,[1]

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[2] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty[3] as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[4] the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference on 11 May 1995,[2] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards,

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[1] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-fifth Regular Session, 19-23 September 2011* (GC(55)/RES/DEC(2011)).

[2] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[4] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I-III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I-IV)).

Noting with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[5] the Conference emphasized the importance of a process leading to full implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and decided, inter alia, that the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the co-sponsors of the 1995 resolution, in consultation with the States of the region, would convene a conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the Middle East, on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region and with the full support and engagement of the nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become a party to the Treaty,

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to seriously consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

Noting that one hundred and eighty-two States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[6] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[7]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[3] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

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[5] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I-III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I-III)).

[6] See resolution 50/245.

[7] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*, sect. IV.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 102

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 65/89 of 8 December 2010.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 October 2011, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 106. The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.3-9). The Committee also held 11 meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 10th to 20th meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Action on all draft resolutions and decisions was taken at the 21st to 24th meetings, from 26 to 28th and on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.21-24).

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

Please recycle

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.17

5. At the 15th meeting, on 18 October, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Bulgaria and Sweden, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" (A/C.1/66/L.17).

6. At the 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.17.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.17 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 65/89 of 8 December 2010,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and the entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[1] and its amended article 1,[2] the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[1] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[1] and its amended version,[3] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[1] the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[4] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[5]

Welcoming the results of the Third Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, held in Geneva from 7 to 17 November 2006,

Welcoming also the results of the 2010 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva on 25 and 26 November 2010,

Welcoming further the results of the Twelfth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held in Geneva on 24 November 2010,

Welcoming the results of the Fourth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held in Geneva on 22 and 23 November 2010,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[1] and the Protocols

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[2] Ibid., vol. 2260, No. 22495.

[3] Ibid., vol. 2048, No. 22495.

[4] Ibid., vol. 2024, No. 22495.

[5] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);[5]

4. *Welcomes* the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;

5. *Also welcomes* the adoption by the Third Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention of a plan of action to promote universality of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,[6] and expresses appreciation for the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, the Chair of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, the President of the Fourth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V and the President of the Twelfth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. *Recalls* the decision of the Third Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to establish a sponsorship programme within the framework of the Convention,[7] and, with recognition of the value and importance of the programme, encourages States to contribute to the Sponsorship Programme;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the 2010 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to convene the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in Geneva from 14 to 25 November 2011;

8. *Acknowledges* the work of the Implementation Support Unit within the Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, which was established following a decision of the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment by States parties to continue to address the humanitarian problems caused by certain specific types of munitions in all their aspects, including cluster munitions, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian impact of these munitions;

10. *Also welcomes* the preparatory work for the Fourth Review Conference conducted by the Group of Governmental Experts of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, acting under the overall responsibility of the President-designate, and notes that the issue of urgently addressing the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions, while striking a balance between military and humanitarian considerations, will be further addressed at the Fourth Review Conference in November 2011;

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[6] See CCW/CONF.III/11 (Part II), annex III.

[7] Ibid., annex IV.

11. *Further welcomes* the commitment of States parties to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V) to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation,[8] and also welcomes the holding of the Meeting of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol, in Geneva from 6 to 8 April 2011, as a mechanism for consultation and cooperation among the States parties;

12. *Notes* the decision of the Tenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to establish an informal open-ended group of experts,[9] and welcomes the holding of the third session of the Group of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, in Geneva on 4 and 5 April 2011, to exchange national practices and experiences and to assess the implementation of the Protocol;

13. *Also notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, to be held from 14 to 25 November 2011, and other annual conferences and expert meetings of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V, as well as for any continuation of the work after the meetings;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1[2] and the Protocols thereto;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

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[8] See CCW/P.V/CONF/2007/1 and Corr.1 and 2 and CCW/P.V/CONF/2008/12.

[9] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.10/2, para. 23.

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Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 65/90 of 8 December 2010.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 October 2011, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 106. The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.3-9). The Committee also held 11 meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 10th to 20th meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Action on all draft resolutions and decisions was taken at the 21st to 24th meetings, from 26 to 28 and on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.21-24).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (A/66/122).

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Please recycle

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.22

5. At the 18th meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region" (A/C.1/66/L.22). Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Mali, Mauritania, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, San Marino, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.22 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 65/90 of 8 December 2010,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Welcoming the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular through the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro-Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recalling, in this regard, the adoption on 13 July 2008 of the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, which launched a reinforced partnership, named the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean", and the common political will to revive efforts to transform the Mediterranean into an area of peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity,

Welcoming the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[1] as a contribution to the strengthening of peace and security both regionally and internationally,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, as well as their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

[1] See A/50/426, annex.

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[2]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[3]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area, will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the conditions necessary for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

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[2] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.
[3] A/66/122.

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the conditions necessary for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[4]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

[4] See resolution 46/36 L.

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Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 65/91 of 8 December 2010.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 October 2011, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 106. The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.3-9). The Committee also held 11 meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 10th to 20th meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Action on all draft resolutions and decisions was taken at the 21st to 24th meetings, from 26 to 28 and on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.21-24).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (A/66/155 and Add.1);

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(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization covering the year 2010 (A/66/165).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.37

5. At the 12th meeting, on 14 October, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" (A/C.1/66/L.37). Subsequently, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Canada, the Congo, Georgia, Guyana, Haiti, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Paraguay, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, San Marino, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Trinidad and Tobago joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 23rd meeting, on 28 October, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.37 as follows:

(a) The sixth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 168 to 1, with 3 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia,

Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Abstaining:

India, Israel, Pakistan.

(b) Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.37, as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 170 to 1, with 3 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Abstaining:

India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process for achieving nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and that, after more than fifteen years, its entry into force is more urgent than ever before,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and eighty-two States, including forty-one of the forty-four whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of the Treaty by one hundred and fifty-five States, including thirty-five of the forty-four whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, among which there are three nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 65/91 of 8 December 2010,

Welcoming the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[1] which, inter alia, reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and included specific actions to be taken in support of the entry into force of the Treaty,

Welcoming also the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the ministerial meeting held in New York on 23 September 2010,[2]

Recalling the Final Declaration adopted by the seventh Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 23 September 2011,[3] convened pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, and noting the improved prospects for ratification in several Annex 2 countries,

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[1] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[2] A/65/675, annex.

[3] See CTBT-Art.XIV/2011/6.

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, in order to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the verification regime of the Treaty will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Recalls* Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006 and 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009, emphasizes the importance of their implementation, and reaffirms its firm support for the Six-Party Talks;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

7. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

8. *Welcomes*, since its previous resolution on the subject, the ratification of the Treaty by Ghana and Guinea as a significant step towards the early entry into force of the Treaty;

9. *Also welcomes* the recent expressions by a number of the remaining States whose ratification is needed for the Treaty to enter into force of their intention to pursue and complete the ratification process;

10. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, to prepare a report on the efforts of States that have ratified the Treaty towards its universalization and possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States that so request it, and to submit such a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

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[4] See resolution 50/245.

United Nations A/66/419

General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 105

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 65/92 of 8 December 2010.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 October 2011, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 106. The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.3-9). The Committee also held 11 meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 10th to 20th meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Action on all draft resolutions and decisions was taken at the 21st to 24th meetings, from 26 to 28 and on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.21-24).

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.32

5. At the 21st meeting, on 26 October, the representative of Hungary introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" (A/C.1/66/L.32), and orally revised as follows:

(a) The words "one hundred and sixty-four" in the second preambular paragraph were replaced by the words "one hundred and sixty-five";

(b) The words "an additional States has" in operative paragraph 1 were replaced by the words "two additional States have".

6. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.32.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.32, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that there are one hundred and sixty-five States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[1] including all the permanent members of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the review conferences of the parties to the Convention, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[2] and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declaration of the Fourth Review Conference that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,[3]

Recalling the decision reached at the Sixth Review Conference to hold four annual meetings of the States parties of one week's duration each year commencing in 2007, prior to the Seventh Review Conference, which is to be held no later than the end of 2011, and to hold a one-week meeting of experts to prepare for each meeting of the States parties,[4]

1. *Notes with appreciation* that two additional States have acceded to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[1] reaffirms its call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at the earliest possible date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[2] See BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.

[3] See BWC/CONF.IV/9, part II.

[4] See BWC/CONF.VI/6, part III.

2. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, as well as the several measures to update the mechanism for the transmission of information in the framework of confidence-building measures agreed upon at the Sixth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed upon at the Third Review Conference;[2]

3. *Recalls* the decisions on all provisions of the Convention reached at the Sixth Review Conference,[4] and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate in their implementation;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Implementation Support Unit within the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat during the 2007-2010 intersessional process consistent with its mandate and in accordance with the decisions of the Sixth Review Conference;

5. *Welcomes* the successful holding of meetings as part of the 2007-2010 intersessional process, and in this context also welcomes the discussion aimed at the promotion of common understanding and effective action on topics agreed upon at the Sixth Review Conference;

6. *Notes* the success of the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Seventh Review Conference, held in Geneva from 13 to 15 April 2011, and welcomes the convening of the Seventh Review Conference in Geneva from 5 to 22 December 2011 pursuant to the decision of the Preparatory Committee;

7. *Recalls* that the Seventh Review Conference is mandated to consider issues identified in the review of the operation of the Convention as provided for in article XII thereof and any possible consensus follow-up action;

8. *Urges* all States parties to continue to work together to achieve a consensus outcome of the Seventh Review Conference which strengthens the Convention;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the events organized by some States parties for exchanges of views on the work of the Seventh Review Conference;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention, to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the review conferences and to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the Seventh Review Conference;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 106

Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations" was included in the agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 65/93 of 8 December 2010.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 October 2011, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 106. The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.3-9). The Committee also held 11 meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 10th to 20th meetings, from 12 to 14, from 17 to 21 and on 24 and 25 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.10-20). Action on all draft resolutions and decisions was taken at the 21st to 24th meetings, from 26 to 28 and on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.21-24).

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

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II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.1/66/L.21 and Rev.1

5. At the 19th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Austria, on behalf of Austria, Mexico and Norway, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations" (A/C.1/66/L.21).

6. At the 24th meeting, on 31 October, the representative of Austria, on behalf of Austria, Mexico and Norway, made a statement in the course of which he introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/66/L.21/Rev.1) and informed the Committee that the sponsors of the draft resolution would not press for action on the draft resolution at that time.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to take no action on the draft resolution.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.39

8. At the 19th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the Netherlands, South Africa and Switzerland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations" (A/C.1/66/L.39). Subsequently, Albania, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. At the 23rd meeting, on 28 October, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution by inserting the words ", in the appropriate forums," after the words "*Invites* States".

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/66/L.39, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 11).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

11. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 65/93 of 8 December 2010,

Reaffirming the importance of disarmament in strengthening global security and promoting international stability,

Recognizing that the political will to advance the disarmament agenda has been strengthened in recent years and that the international political climate is conducive to the promotion of multilateral disarmament and moving towards the goal of a world without nuclear weapons,

Affirming the importance of multilateralism in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

Mindful of the continuing importance of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, as stated during the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

Recalling the past achievements of the Conference on Disarmament in successfully negotiating arms control and disarmament instruments,

Reiterating its grave concern about the current status of the disarmament machinery, including the lack of substantive progress in the Conference on Disarmament for more than a decade, and stressing the need for greater efforts and flexibility to advance multilateral disarmament negotiations,

Welcoming the efforts by Member States to secure progress in multilateral disarmament and the support of the Secretary-General for such efforts, and recalling the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, held in New York on 24 September 2010, and the follow-up plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held from 27 to 29 July 2011,

Noting with concern that, despite all efforts, the Conference on Disarmament has not been able to adopt and implement a programme of work during its 2011 session,

Recognizing the contribution of civil society in the area of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Mindful of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 11 of Chapter IV concerning the functions and powers of the General Assembly in respect of disarmament,

1. *Welcomes* the opportunity provided by the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, convened at the initiative of the Secretary-

General in New York on 24 September 2010, and the follow-up plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held from 27 to 29 July 2011, to address the need to advance multilateral disarmament efforts;

2. *Expresses appreciation* for the support voiced for the urgent need to revitalize the work of multilateral disarmament bodies and to advance multilateral disarmament negotiations;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the continuing efforts and suggestions made by Member States and the Secretary-General with regard to revitalizing the multilateral disarmament machinery;

4. *Calls upon* States to intensify efforts aimed at creating an environment conducive to multilateral disarmament negotiations;

5. *Invites* States, in the appropriate forums, to explore, consider and consolidate options, proposals and elements for revitalization of the United Nations disarmament machinery as a whole, including the Conference on Disarmament;

6. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to adopt and implement a programme of work to enable it to resume substantive work on its agenda early in its 2012 session;

7. *Recognizes* the need to take stock, during the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, of all relevant efforts to take forward multilateral disarmament negotiations;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations", to review progress made in the implementation of the present resolution and, if necessary, to further explore options for taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 121

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to allocate item 121 to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work for 2012.

2. The First Committee considered the item at its 24th meeting, on 31 October (see A/C.1/66/PV.24).

3. At the 24th meeting, the Chair made a statement and introduced the proposed programme of work.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted its proposed programme of work and timetable for 2012, annexed to the present report.

5. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Proposed programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2012

The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee, approves the proposed programme of work and timetable of the Committee for 2012, as contained in the annex to the report of the First Committee.

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Annex

Programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2012

Programme/meeting	*Dates*	*Number of meetings*
Meeting for the organization of work	Friday, 5 October	1
General debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items[a]	Monday, 8 October, to Tuesday, 16 October	8
(a) Exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at its previous sessions/presentation of reports		
(b) Exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament		
Closure of the list of speakers for the general debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items	Tuesday, 9 October, at 6 p.m.	
Thematic discussion on specific subjects and introduction and consideration of all draft resolutions submitted under agenda items, including:	Wednesday, 17 October, to Monday, 29 October	9
Panel discussions and exchanges with independent experts[b]		
Deadline for submission of draft resolutions under all agenda items	Thursday, 18 October, at 12 noon	
Action on all draft resolutions submitted under agenda items	Tuesday, 30 October, to Tuesday, 6 November	6

[a] A rolling list of speakers would be opened about a month before the beginning of the session. Delegations are encouraged to limit their statements to a maximum of 10 minutes, and statements on behalf of a group of countries should not exceed 15 minutes. The list would give priority to high-level representatives and should be shared with the Committee on a regular basis so as to increase transparency.

[b] Wide civil society participation is encouraged.

Week	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*
1-5 October	1 October	2 October	3 October	4 October	5 October afternoon
8-12 October	8 October morning	9 October morning	10 October morning	11 October morning	12 October morning
15-19 October	15 October afternoon	16 October afternoon	17 October afternoon	18 October afternoon	19 October afternoon
22-26 October	22 October morning and afternoon	23 October morning	24 October morning	25 October morning	26 October (UN holiday)
29 October-2 November	29 October afternoon	30 October afternoon	31 October afternoon	1 November afternoon	2 November afternoon
5-9 November	5 November morning	6 November morning	7 November morning[a]	8 November	9 November

Note: The Committee will exercise flexibility on the scheduling of the meetings during the last two weeks of the session without prejudice to the decisions to be taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session.

[a] If necessary.

United Nations A/66/422

General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 135

Programme planning

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Archil **Gheghechkori** (Georgia)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Programme planning" and to allocate it to the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee), the other Main Committees and the plenary of the Assembly, in order to enhance the discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

2. The need did not arise for the First Committee to take up this item during the main part of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

11-51166 (E) 151111

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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 49

Assistance in mine action

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Mr. Hasan **Abulhasan** (Kuwait)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. The Fourth Committee considered the item at its 18th meeting, on 28 October 2011 (see A/C.4/66/SR.18). The Committee held a general debate, and took action, on the item at the same meeting.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/66/292).

4. At the 18th meeting, on 28 October, the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations made an introductory statement (see A/C.4/66/SR.18).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.4/66/L.6

5. At its 18th meeting, on 28 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Assistance in mine action" (A/C.4/66/L.6), submitted by Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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and the United States of America. Subsequently, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Serbia and Tajikistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Acting Chair stated that she had been informed by the Secretariat that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

7. Also at its 18th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/66/L.6 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

8. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Assistance in mine action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 64/84 of 10 December 2009 and all its previous resolutions on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Recalling also all relevant treaties and conventions[1] and their review processes,

Noting with appreciation the extent to which the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action has been commemorated worldwide,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and explosive remnants of war,[2] which have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of countries affected by them,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and explosive remnants of war pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping, rehabilitation and mine-clearance programmes and operations,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year as well as the presence of a decreasing but still very large number of, and area of square kilometres infested by, mines and explosive remnants of war as a result of armed conflicts, and therefore remaining convinced of the necessity and urgency of strengthening mine-action efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war to civilians as soon as possible,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has a significant role to play in the field of assistance in mine action through the

[1] These include the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, 1997; the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices, as amended in 1996 (Protocol II to the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects); the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War, 2003 (Protocol V to the 1980 Convention); the Convention on Cluster Munitions, 2008; the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 1977; and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006.

[2] As defined by Protocol V to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

United Nations Mine Action Team,[3] including the United Nations Mine Action Service, and considering mine action to be an important and integrated component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities, as well as noting the integration of mine action in numerous United Nations peacekeeping operations,

Noting with appreciation the enhanced cooperation of the United Nations Mine Action Team with non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders through meetings of the Committee on Mine Action,[4] and progress in active involvement in the humanitarian coordination mechanism,

Recognizing the valuable mine-action efforts of national and international mine-action practitioners, including United Nations personnel and peacekeepers, enabling local communities to resume normal lives and reclaim their livelihoods by regaining access to previously contaminated lands,

Stressing the pressing need to urge non-State actors to halt immediately and unconditionally new deployments of mines, improvised explosive devices and other associated explosive devices,

Noting the ongoing efforts to develop a new United Nations Inter-Agency Mine Action Strategy for the period 2011-2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance in mine action;[5]

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of States, with the assistance of the United Nations and relevant organizations involved in mine action, as appropriate, to foster the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities in countries in which mines and explosive remnants of war constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local civilian population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels;

3. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, as well as the United Nations system and other relevant organizations and institutions involved in mine action, to support mine-affected States and territories, as appropriate, by providing:

(a) Assistance to countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war for the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities, including, where appropriate, in the fulfilment of the relevant international obligations of those countries;

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[3] Consisting of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the United Nations Mine Action Service, the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Office for Project Services, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization and the World Bank.

[4] The Committee on Mine Action is an informal information-sharing forum. The members are United Nations Mine Action Team members, non-governmental organizations involved in mine action, the International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining and academic institutions.

[5] A/66/292.

(b) Support for national programmes, where appropriate, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and relevant regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to reduce the risks posed by landmines and explosive remnants of war, taking into consideration the different needs of women, girls, boys and men;

(c) Reliable, predictable and timely contributions for mine-action activities, including through national mine-action efforts and mine-action programmes of non-governmental organizations, including those relating to victim assistance and mine risk education, especially at the local level, as well as through relevant national, regional and global trust funds, including the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action;

(d) Necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance to locate, remove, destroy and otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps, other devices and explosive remnants of war, in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

(e) Technological assistance (i) to countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war; and (ii) to promote user-oriented scientific research on and development of mine-action techniques and technology that are effective, sustainable, appropriate and environmentally sound;

4. *Encourages* efforts to conduct all mine-action activities in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) or IMAS-compliant national standards, and emphasizes the importance of using an information management system, such as the Information Management System for Mine Action, to help facilitate mine-action activities;

5. *Urges* all mine-affected States, pursuant to applicable international law, to identify all areas, as appropriate, under their jurisdiction or control containing mines and other explosive remnants of war in the most efficient manner possible and to employ land release techniques, including non-technical survey, technical survey and clearance when appropriate;

6. *Encourages* mine-affected States, with support from relevant development partners as appropriate, to proactively mainstream mine action and victim assistance requirements into development plans and processes to ensure that development priorities include mine action and that mine action is predictably funded;

7. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral, regional and national programmes and bodies to include activities related to mine action, including clearance, in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national and local ownership, sustainability and capacity-building, as well as to include a gender and age-appropriate perspective in all aspects of such activities;

8. *Encourages* Member States, as appropriate, and relevant organizations involved in mine action to continue efforts to ensure that mine-action programmes are gender- and age-sensitive, so that women, girls, boys and men can benefit equally from them, and encourages the participation of all stakeholders in the programming of mine action;

9. *Stresses* the importance of cooperation and coordination in mine action, and emphasizes the primary responsibility of national authorities in that regard, also stresses the supporting role of the United Nations and other relevant organizations in that regard, and looks forward to the imminent completion of the evaluation by the Joint Inspection Unit of the scope, organization, effectiveness and approach of the work of the United Nations in mine action, as requested in its resolution 64/84;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of explicitly incorporating references to mine action, when appropriate, in ceasefire and peace agreements in the light of the potential that mine action can have as a peace and confidence-building measure in post-conflict situations among the parties concerned;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on follow-up to previous resolutions on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action, including on relevant United Nations policies and activities as well as in regard to the evaluation by the Joint Inspection Unit of the scope, organization, effectiveness and approach of the work of the United Nations in mine action;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

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Effects of atomic radiation

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Hasan **Abulhasan** (Kuwait)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Effects of atomic radiation" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. The Fourth Committee considered the item and held a general debate on the item at its 13th meeting, on 21 October 2011, and took action on the item at its 23rd meeting, on 10 November (see A/C.4/66/SR.13 and 23).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (A/66/46);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the effects of atomic radiation in the Marshall Islands (A/66/378);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the membership of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation and the financial implications of increased membership (A/66/524);

(d) Letter dated 10 October 2011 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/C.4/66/8).

4. At the 13th meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Germany, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and the Secretary of that Committee made statements on the work of the Committee (see A/C.4/66/SR.13).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.4/66/L.7

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Germany, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, China, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Effects of atomic radiation" (A/C.4/66/L.7). Subsequently, Austria, Ireland, Latvia, Monaco and Portugal joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

7. Also at its 23rd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/66/L.7 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

8. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment, and conscious also of the increased volume, complexity and diversity of that information,

Acknowledging the concerns about the radiological consequences of an accident which were raised by the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station following the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan,

Recalling the twenty-fifth anniversary of the nuclear accident at Chernobyl,

Recalling also the High-level Meeting on Nuclear Safety and Security convened in New York on 22 September 2011,

Recalling further that the Secretary-General invited the General Assembly to provide the Scientific Committee with the necessary capacity and resources to accomplish its tasks,[1]

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work, and welcoming the increased commitment of States members of the Scientific Committee,

Emphasizing the vital need for sufficient, assured and predictable funding, as well as efficient management, of the work of the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to arrange the annual sessions and coordinate the development of documents based on scientific reviews of the sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment,

Recalling the tenth preambular paragraph of its resolution 65/96 of 10 December 2010, and noting with appreciation that the new P-4 post for the secretariat of the Scientific Committee has been filled,

[1] See A/C.4/66/8, annex, para. 27 (b).

Recognizing the increasing importance of the scientific work of the Scientific Committee and the need to carry out unforeseen additional work in cases such as the nuclear accident in Japan,

Recognizing also the importance of voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to support the work of the Scientific Committee,

Considering that the high quality of the work of the Scientific Committee needs to be maintained in the future,

Recognizing the importance of disseminating results from the work of the Scientific Committee and widely publicizing scientific knowledge about atomic radiation, and recalling, in that context, principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2]

Acknowledging that Belarus, Finland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Ukraine had informed the President of the General Assembly before 28 February 2007, in accordance with paragraph 14 of Assembly resolution 61/109 of 14 December 2006, of their desire to become members of the Scientific Committee,

Welcoming the attendance of Belarus, Finland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Ukraine as observers at the fifty-sixth, fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions of the Scientific Committee,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Scientific Committee and notes the report on its fifty-eighth session;[3]

4. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

5. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for conducting its programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly, in particular its decision to conduct a full assessment of the levels of exposure and radiation risks attributable to the accident following the great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami, calls upon the Scientific Committee to submit to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session the report requested by the Assembly on the attributability of health effects from radiation exposure,[4] encourages the

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[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/66/46).

[4] See resolution 62/100, para. 6.

Scientific Committee at its earliest convenience to submit the other related reports, including on assessments of levels of ionizing radiation from electrical energy production, as well as on the effects on human health and the environment, and requests the Scientific Committee to submit plans for its ongoing and future programme of work to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretariat to facilitate the timely publication of the reports of the Scientific Committee, inter alia, by continuing to streamline internal procedures as necessary, and to strive to publish the reports within the same calendar year as their approval;

7. *Re-emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report can reflect the latest developments and findings in the field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States;

8. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the Secretariat to facilitate such consultations;

9. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the levels and effects of ionizing radiation, and invites the Scientific Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

10. *Also welcomes* the strategy of the Scientific Committee to improve data collection, encourages in this regard Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly, and further encourages the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations to establish and coordinate with the Secretariat the arrangements for periodic collection and exchange of data on radiation exposures of workers, the general public, and, in particular, medical patients;

11. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue and strengthen, as appropriate, support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

12. *Urges* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to strengthen the funding of the Scientific Committee, pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 65/96;

13. *Encourages* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and also to make contributions in kind in order to support the work of the Scientific Committee;

14. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General regarding the effects of atomic radiation in the Marshall Islands;[5]

15. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the objective criteria and indicators to determine membership that would best support the

[5] A/66/378.

essential work of the Scientific Committee and the financial implications of increased membership;[6]

16. *Decides* to increase the membership of the Scientific Committee from twenty-one to twenty-seven States, on the understanding that the increase in membership can be achieved from within existing resources for the biennium 2012-2013, and requests the Secretariat and Member States to use the budget and the meeting time allocated to the work of the Scientific Committee in the most efficient manner in order to best avoid additional budgetary implications of the increased membership in the future;

17. *Invites* Belarus, Finland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Ukraine to become members of the Scientific Committee, and requests the Government of each of those States to designate one scientist, with alternates and consultants, as appropriate, to be its representative in the Committee;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the experience of the increase in the membership of the Scientific Committee to twenty-seven States regarding its effectiveness, quality of work and equitable geographical distribution, as well as on options for further increase procedures;

19. *Decides* to next consider reviewing the possible increase in the membership of the Scientific Committee at its seventy-second session, taking into account new expressions of interest in membership received by the Secretary-General between the sixty-sixth and seventy-second sessions of the General Assembly, all previous resolutions of the Assembly and, as appropriate, all relevant reports of the Secretary-General on the Scientific Committee as well as the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the need to ensure the effectiveness and the quality of work of the Scientific Committee, with a view to establishing a procedure at the seventy-third session for the possible further increase in the membership, and requests the Secretary-General to duly inform all Member States about this procedure.

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[6] A/66/524.